THE EXAMINER.

No. 264 SUNDAY, JAN. 17, 1813.

THE POLITICAL EXAMINER.

Party is the madness of many for the gain of a few. SWIFT.

No. 255.

STATE OF THE CIVILIZED WORLD AT THE CLOSE OF THE YEAR 1812.

Upon writing the title of this paper, we could scarcely help doubting whether we should let it stand,—the phrase of "civilized world" had an air of such melancholy burlesque. What! said we to ourselves,—"shall we flatter our vanity, and that of our poor miserable contemporaries, by calling ourselves inhabitants of a "civilized world," when the most civilized quarter of it is full of nothing but strife and bloodshed,—when the most thinking people in that quarter are taxed down to their very shoes in order to keep it up,—and when the said thinking people, who are also the most public-spirited and benevolent people, are teazing and humiliating a part of their countrymen, because the latter have a fancy for believing one or two more absurdities than themselves?—However, we began to think what the quieter part of this civilized world were about, and we found of course, that the ambitious warriors, and intriguing politicians, and bigots, and courtiers, &c., were nothing but the great mob of the day, and that an age is no more to be characterized from the noise and nonsense to which they give rise, than an estimation to be formed of the people in a theatre from the galleries. Europe, said we, is still a civilized quarter, and England is still the most civilized part of it; for have we not abolished the Slave Trade? Have we not given a death blow to the most fatal of diseases? Have we not begun to spread abroad the blessings of a cheap, an easy, and a rational education? In short, are we not in possession of such persons as CLARKSON,—as LANCASTER,—as MARIA EDGEWORTH,—as ROMILLY,—as BENTHAM? Let us take heart then, and assume the pride that belongs to our merits. The world *shall* be a civilized one, in spite of all efforts to the contrary, from BONAPARTE down to the Cambridge Petitioners.

The first thing that strikes one, in looking at the state of Europe, is that a flaw has been made in the victorious character of BONAPARTE,—certainly not from any foresight on our parts, but in the first instance, from a mistake into which his "knowledge of the word" led him with regard to Spain; and in the second, from an unexpected stroke of warfare on the part of the Russians. In other respects, the past year has presented nothing but a continuation of that old and reckless delusion of ours, which has led us to imagine that we can interfere with the Continent to any lasting purpose; and the present has commenced with a new and fatal confirmation of this delusion, in the latter of the abovementioned circumstances. We mistake the grounds both of victory and defeat. It is not that we are more wise or that the Russians are more patriotic than usual, by which we are to account for his late rebuff: it is solely from the resolution or barbarism (call it which you please) of an individual Russian. To be sure, ROSTOPCHIN may have a feeling of patriotism about him, because he has a property to save and a Sovereign who can do him benefits; but nothing can be more ignorant than to talk of the patriotism of the Russians in general,—at least if patriotism is to imply a jot of care for their masters; for they are mere slaves, from one side of the country to the other; and either they have no such thing as patriotism properly so called, or the talk about national liberty and the good it does in case of invasion is an idle cant. But what is the old cause of complaint, and the just one too, against France? It is, that she has been in the habit of promising liberty to other nations, without intending to keep her word, and with no other design than that of rousing them in her service. BONAPARTE, with his new feelings of kingship about him, tried to play a different part with Spain, and made his first stumble accordingly. He has since grown wiser, no doubt; though like other stumbling politicians, he chuses to keep the same face in getting up, and to pretend himself altogether ignorant of the accident. Yet he tells us, that if he had promised liberty to the Russian slaves, he should have got on much easier; and we have little doubt that he would so; but perhaps he has grown rather ashamed of playing such a farce, or *thinks the example a little dangerous for himself.* His alleged reason for not doing it was his horror of letting loose such a set of barbarians. He was afraid, probably, that he should only set them against their masters, without making them friends of their invaders. If there remains indeed, after that of France, a height of horror to which revolution might be carried, it would be such a revolution on the part of the Russian peasantry.

England then remains as she was at the commencement of the last year, gazing wistfully on the Continent instead of attending to her internal interests, and feeding her idle hopes of BONAPARTE's downfall. France, on the other hand, has really lost something of her character for success, but only so much, and in such a manner, as in all that concerns her neighbourhood she may repair. No unfavourable impression seems to have been made by her late disaster upon Austria and the rest of Germany; nor even upon the smaller states in the North; and if BONAPARTE should not chuse to renew the war in Russia, now that he cannot reckon upon a good winter settlement, from which to take the rest of the country at his leisure and make the most of a short summer, yet it is not to be supposed that the Emperor ALEXANDER will think it wise

to come down and interfere with Europe, when he must feel well assured that he has only been saved by avoiding a great battle. There is no more connection therefore between the restoration of the Bourbons, either in France or Spain, and the success of the Russian Emperor, than between the state of their finger's-ends and the cold that pinched Bonaparte in the North. In one respect, his success has even done us an injury in the South, for it has enabled as well as stimulated Bonaparte to turn with more conclusive and impatient eyes towards Spain; and the politician must have need of some dozen pair of spectacles, who in the speeches of the Marquis Wellesley in Parliament, in Bonaparte's new declarations on the subject, in the utter want of sympathy with us on the part of the Spaniards themselves, and in the late remarkable letter of Lord Wellington, does not perceive our speedy evacuation of the Peninsula.

As to the smaller Northern States abovementioned, we trust that our sapient Ministers,—if they were destined ever to know themselves in any one respect,—have found out by this time how they have been deluded in that quarter, both in their attempts to conciliate and to force alliance. The Crown Prince of Sweden, it is clear, has played a very complete sort of trick, with his grave alliance and his pretending to be setting out every minute with some expedition in our favour. He has succeeded in his real object,—that of steering safely between both parties, and in so doing has proved himself a worthy neighbour of the King of Denmark, who appears to us, more than ever, the most sensible of all the legitimate Monarchs, or perhaps we should rather say at once,—a sensible man,—for the comparison is not flattering. He had acuteness and firmness enough when Prince Regent, to keep clear of all interference with the loggerheads of Europe; and he has done so still in spite of our wise, and humane, and honourable, and *Anti-Gallican* endeavours to the contrary. If he has at present rather a leaning to Bonaparte than to ourselves, we must pity the infirmities of our fellow-creatures, who, even when they are persons of understanding, do not exactly like to be insulted and outraged, and who naturally prefer the man that respects them though but in appearance, to such friends as go and run away with their property, set fire to their towns, and scatter about the limbs and brains of their countrymen.

Such is the present condition of the civilized part of Europe,—hopeless, for all that we have done to make it otherwise,—and hopeful, only as it may get worse in certain quarters, for we do trust that the final loss of Spain and the new intercourse of Bonaparte with Russia, which we shall see before long, will give us something like a disposition to treat of peace. We say nothing of the European possessions of Turkey, which in fact only continue to exist, as they have always existed, by the quarrels of the Christian Princes;—but it is impossible, in casting one's reflection round the map of Europe, not to be struck with the long and dead silence that has hung over the very name of Italy,—of Italy, the soul of enthusiasm and glory,—of Italy, the parent of modern genius, the shining Muse of Romance and Poetry, the mistress of the ancient world, and for a series of ages, the leader of the new in arts and in religion, substituting intellectual for physical power, and pertinaciously reigning over the minds of men long after it had lost the grasp of their bodies. All that we hear of her now amounts to little more than the repetition of her name in Bonaparte's titles, and in the strange mixture of ludicrous and melancholy ideas excited by that of his Majesty the King of Rome. Yet it is probable that in exchange for a former nominal freedom and for that emulous spirit of genius, which was excited by the small independant principalities, something will be added to the real comfort of the people, under a master not insensible to their reputation; and though the conscription is an evil with which their umbrella-soldiers have not been visited for ages, yet their sun-shine-indolence was perhaps a still greater, and the families that they leave at home cannot but contemplate with satisfaction such works as the destruction of those locusts the Monks, and the draining of the pestilential Pontine marshes,—an undertaking which the Popes could never accomplish, either in their wisdom or their vain-glory. Such of the Italians, we suppose, as have any of the old spirit left, console themselves with the reflection that their subjugator was born in Corsica, and that they have a share in his victories over other nations; but whichever way they turn to find a resting-place for their pride, they cannot but feel that they drag their chains with them, and that Italy seems destined, as the poet lamented,

*Per servir sempre, o vincitrice, o vinta:—**
Conquer'd or conq'ring, still to be a slave.

On quitting Europe and casting a glance towards the Western hemisphere, a thousand bright visions of future improvements and rising glories burst upon us, and the mind is at first bewildered with fancying them into shape:—but for the present, war is almost as fiercely at work here as in our own quarter; and to complete the melancholy picture of human inconsistencies, the English are quarrelling with their cousins-german of the United States for not continuing to conduct themselves like submissive colonialists, long afer they have declared them an independant people; while the Spaniards, who are fighting for liberty in Europe, are mustering all their old prejudices, to make head against it in America. However, the English aristocrats, though loth enough to own it, are now learning to suffer for affecting an absurd contempt of the men who beat them before, and for suffering this old piece of family jealousy to break out; and if the Spaniards, unfortunately, are not succeeding in Europe, it is some consolation to know that they cannot succeed in America. It is

* See the six noble sonnets of Filicaia on this subject,—a poet every way worthy, for genius, for virtue, and for the love of political liberty, to be the successor of Petrarch.

but of the nature of things that they should;—old age might as well attempt to stop the progress, and to spoliate, for it's own cloathing, the flesh and vigour of youth:—the system of small tyranny had come to its' years of dotage, and was to be succeeded by an heir that had learnt to despise it. It is impossible to say whether real freedom will be the result; but at least, when men have to take care of their own country, and to reap all it's advantages, they stand a much better chance for happiness than under the controul of a selfish and distant authority; and in times like the present, one would not willingly give up the hope, that such countries as Mexico and Peru, calculated, as there is every reason to believe, for the first productions of genius, will once more laugh out in their own sunshine, untrodden by petty tyrants, and unencumbered by monks. Whatever turn however may be given to the successful ardour of the new states, whether for a republic at once, or for the better republic of a limited monarchy, or for a new absolute monarchy under some ambitious captain,—let the Court of Brazil,—to use a phrase of Master FRANCIS MOORE,—look to itself. An exotic weakness like hers, will stand a poor chance under the hardy shadow of laurelled empires.

By the Western hemisphere, the Eastern is now quite eclipsed in it's interest; and indeed it never has produced a hundredth part of the interest, which was predicted of the new empire there and it's connexions. Encroaching squabbles with the natives,—lucrative appointments,—a hollow trade,—and the attempts of a few wretched fanatics to spread a certain horrible alternative between an opinion and everlasting punishment,—which alternative they call Evangelism or the Announcement of Good Tidings,—these are the principal features, which people present to their minds when they recall the idea of our Eastern dominion. The public attention has been excited to it a little by a question which is now pending between the Ministers and the Directors relative to a general extension of the trade, and which the former may think it a piece of policy to discuss, at a time when our commerce is reduced to nothing; but whatever may be the result of the discussion, it will be of very little benefit, we believe, to any party; and we are quite convinced, that the public at large would not care an atom, if our Indian empire were to be annihilated to-morrow, provided the French had no hand in it's destruction. As far as any rational improvement can be extended by it among the human race, it is worthy indeed to remain; but a house composed of bankrupt masters and money making servants is not exactly the focus of intellectual amelioration;—and the sword of ambition and the sulphureous torch of Calvinism are, at best, ungracious instruments of improvement, especially with a race of men who hold it criminal to cut up even a goose, and who think that the Supreme Being approves of a diversity of religions.

Where opinions however are brought into play, something of an advancement in knowledge is generally the result, let them even be absurd upon both sides,—the more so, occasionally, for that very reason; and this will undoubtedly be the case in India as well as other countries, where the infancy or the second childhood of the human mind is undergoing inoculation by the sword. Let others bless themselves, that they can receive knowledge in a kindlier manner from the pen of the philanthropist; and let us all thank Heaven, that if the present is an age of sanguinary ambition, it is also the age of philosophical improvement, and that the blessings of it will remain and be eternal, when the sorrows lie buried with them that suffer. A single BENTHAM, stooping with calm and venerable attention over his studies in the midst of a jarring world, and steadily preparing virtue and comfort for posterity, through all the diversified means of a powerful genius, from the largest grasp of legislation to the smallest and nicest analyses of domestic economy, is a subject of contemplation, that redeems, in our minds, the existence of twenty ambitious captains, who, after all, may only be the unconscious pioneers of his wisdom.

It is a curious indeed as well as refreshing consideration, that an age so distinguished by what are called brilliant achievements, and so abounding with those imposing personages who, to use a phrase congenial enough with the shewiness of their profession, represent themselves as "crowned with glory," should be more remarkable for a sound and philosophic character in its studies, than for one of a lighter and more conciliatory description. Except in England, where the former also is carried to its depth, polite literature seems to have advanced but little in any part of Europe. It is true, writers of very great talent in this department may be unknown to their contemporaries, but it is not likely, at a time when there are hunters after worldly glory so ready to fetch them out;—yet BONAPARTE, with all his fondness for praise and his knowledge of it's value, and with all his inspiring victories, and his distributions of honour to men of all nations, does not appear to have verified the maxim of the poet, that

Every conqueror creates a Muse.*

The amiable DELILLE is silent; and his nephew ROUGET, the general, writer and composer of that glorious Hymn of Marseilles,† which had such an electrical effect upon the republicans, has the honour of remaining in private life, mute and unemployed. We wish we could say as much for the painters, with Citizen *Baron* DAVID at the head of them; but luckily for posterity, their talents, generally speaking, are nearly on a par with their princi-

* WALLER, of CROMWELL, who had the *good fortune* also of being panegyrized by DRYDEN, and the *honour*, by MILTON and MARVELL. The last, though his great wit was debased by the coarseness of the times, and his fancy by it's conceits, possessed a true and fine vein of poetry.

† How deliciously is the pathetic dropped in amidst the fire of this composition! Never was there a finer specimen perhaps of the union of grandeur and delicacy, of the striking and the touching, of what indeed it was written to express,—the combination of national and domestic feeling.

ples, and they seal the fate of their pictures by the stiff sculptural style, which they have acquired from injudicious imitation of the spoils of the Vatican. With the exception of CANOVA, the Italian sculptor, who is said to be an artist of great genius, we have heard of nothing else in the line of BONAPARTE's inspiration, but the extravagant hymns of some Jews, who plainly call him their Messiah, and the extemporaneous effusions of one GIANNI (Johnny) who has a pension, we believe, at Paris, and is represented as a wonderful improvvisatore. We should like to see his Delphic verses committed to paper, upon which these improvvisatori have a wonderful knack of falling off.

One of the greatest literary curiosities of the time is the forthcoming work of LUCIEN BONAPARTE, which is impatiently expected by the lovers of poetry,—to say nothing of the lovers of philosophy, who like to see the untitled brother of an Imperial Conqueror, retiring to the shade, and gathering his unpolluted laurels in peace. All men of taste however are disappointed at finding that his poem is in French instead of Italian,—in the monotonous language of the *Henriade* instead of the varied harmony of TASSO and ARIOSTO. A French epic, to them, is like a war-song played upon a kit; or rather upon a ring of bells, which have only two or three changes, and are fit for nothing but to usher in a wedding-day or a prince's birth.

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FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

FRANCE.

PARIS, JAN. 7.—The custom of calling the actors, and obliging them to appear on the stage after the pieces in which they have performed, having become an opportunity for forming very secret cabals and a cause of disorder, very contrary to the tranquillity which ought to reign at the Play-houses, they have lately been prohibited yielding to such instances in future.

The *Moniteur* contains the following notes upon observations made in an English newspaper:—

English Paper.—"The Antelope, of 50 guns, sailed from Portsmouth on Saturday morning, having one hundred thousand pounds in gold bars on board, to pay the troops in the Peninsula."

Note 1.—For seven months your army of Portugal was not paid:—this hundred thousand pounds will not be sufficient to liquidate the arrears."

English Newspaper.—"They write from Copenhagen, that the Danish Government has it in contemplation to make peace with England," &c. &c.

Note 2.—Denmark will not make peace with you; the outrage you committed upon her, by burning her capital in full peace, and taking her fleet, is not one of those outrages which can be effaced by money.

English Paper.—"If Soult makes a retrograde movement, the Marquis of Wellington will certainly embark for England," &c.

Note 3.—Not only will not the Duke of Dalmatia's army make a retrograde movement towards France, but fresh troops are on their march to reinforce it: the effective force of the French armies in Spain amounted to 300,000 men, of whom 20,000 were cavalry, and 300 pieces of Horse Artillery—these at present under arms being reduced to 270,000, 30,000 have, or will in the month of February, march to complete it up to 300,000 men. Andalusia will be re-occupied, and if the English army is in the least weakened, Portugal will be attacked.

English Paper.—"We are infinitely pleased at learning that the Board of Trade has determined to put an end to the communication with France by Licences," &c.

Note 4.—No licence has been delivered since the arrival of the Emperor. It is very doubtful whether any will be issued. More than 500 English licences being in the possession of commercial men, it is a vain bravado you make, as you have already delivered a sufficient quantity to nourish commerce for two years. It would be more advantageous to France and the Continent, that there should be no communication with you.—Every licence which the French Government grants is a favour done you; it is a drop of oil that it pours into your lamp, which has great need of it! Notwithstanding your craizers, the Americans arrive in crowds in our ports; in the month of December alone, we can reckon more than fifty richly laden.

The *Moniteur* of the 9th inst. also contains the following Notes on a private letter stated to have been received from Paris, which appeared in an English Paper:—

"The Emperor continues to be indisposed, but he has not on that account ceased to employ himself in state affairs."

Note 1.—Neither with hunting three times a week, marching three leagues on foot amidst frost and snow. But there is no person at Paris who does not know that the Emperor enjoys very good health. It is evident that this was manufactured in London.

English Paper.—"His conferences with his Ministers, but particularly with the Austrian Ambassador, are very frequent."

Note 2.—Observe that there is not at Paris either an Austrian Ambassador or Minister.

English Paper.—"There is much speculation here respecting negociations for a general peace."

Note 3.—If you wish to know the conditions of it, read the Duke of Bassano's Letter to Lord Castlereagh.

PARIS, JAN. 9.—The Prince of Neufchatel, Major-General, writes from Konigsberg, under date of the 3d of December, and makes known the positions of the army. Marshal the Duke of Tarente, with the 10th corps, occupies Tilsit and the banks of the Niemen; he has taken several Russian battalions and several pieces of cannon. Hudulet's division occupies Labraw, Wielaw, and Insterbourg; the head-quarters of the 31st division, and the guard are at Konigsberg. The first corps is at Thorn, the second at Marienwerder, the fourth at Marienbourg, the the third occupies Ebbing, the 9th Dantzic, the 6th Plock; the Austrian corps on Bialistock covers the Duchy of Warsaw: the 7th corps between Presing and the Vistula, is in front of Warsaw; the fith corps at Warsaw.

CONSERVATIVE SENATE.

SITTINGS OF THE TENTH OF JANUARY.

His Excellency the Minister for Foreign Affairs communicated the following Report:—

REPORT FROM THE MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS TO HIS MAJESTY THE EMPEROR AND KING.

"SIRE,—When Russia, violating her treaties and renouncing her alliance with France, to unite herself with the system of England, declared war against your Majesty, you apprehended, Sire, all the importance of the contest in which you were going to engage. You appreciated the formation, under the title of Cohorts of the National Guard, of 100 battalions of men between 20 and 26 years of age, who belonging to the six last classes of the Conscription, had not been called to the active army. This institution has had all the success which your Majesty could have expected from it. A warlike youth prepared to the trade of war under the instruction of old soldiers, eagerly demand to partake of the glory of their brethren in arms. When from Smolensko your Majesty advanced towards Moscow

your victorious arms, you did not dissimulate that its progress in the enemy's country added fresh chances to the common chances of war. You wished to further strengthen the basi of its operations, and you ordered the levy of the Conscription for 1813, the whole of which is now under arms.

"With the garrisons of the fortresses of France and Italy, your Majesty has therefore in the interior of your dominions, a force of more than 300,000 men, sufficient to support the war against Russia, during the next campaign. And your intentions, Sire, was not to demand any extraordinary succours, if our allies, and especially Austria, Denmark, and Prussia, remained faithful to the common cause. Austria, Denmark, and Prussia have given your Majesty the strongest assurances of their sentiments. Prussia has even offered to augment a third, and carry the contingent which she had furnished in execution of treaties to 30,000 men.

"But whilst this power manifested dispositions so conformable to her engagements, and to the interests of her policy, the intrigues of England prepared one of those events which characterizes the spirit of disorder and anarchy, which that power does not cease to foment in Europe. General D'York, commanding the Prussian corps under the orders of Marshal the Duke of Tarente, betrayed at once his honour, his General in Chief, and his King. He has made a perfidious compact with the enemy. There are no intrigues, no threats, which England has not put in work to change the dispositions of Sovereigns; but when she has found them firm to their true interests, and immoveable in their alliance with your Majesty, she has undertaken to produce a general disorder by endeavouring to shake the fidelity of the people. Beyond the states of your Majesty, Sire, there are few countries where the audacity and manœuvres of disorginators have not carried uneasiness among the depositaries of the public tranquillity. In the Courts of the agents of corruption, in the camps of vile instigators, and, in short, in cities, schools, and even the bosoms of the most-revered institutions, false enthusiasts incessantly labour to seduce by dark doctrines those who ought, with the most courageous fidelity, to maintain the authority which has been confided to them, and those who have no other duty than that of obeying.

"In such circumstances, Sire, and whenever the intentions of an allied Prince have not been able to guarantee the advantages which your political system ought to have insured you, it becomes an imperious necessity to have recourse to the means which your Majesty will find in the power of your Empire, and in the love of your subjects.

"Under these considerations the Ministers of your Majesty, assembled in an extraordinary Cabinet Council, propose to you,

"1. To send to the active army the 100 cohorts of National Guards.

"2. To make a call of 100,000 men from the conscriptions of 1809, 1810, 1811, and 1812.

"3. To raise 100,000 men of the conscription for 1814, which shall be formed in garrisons and camps, upon our frontiers and coasts, and ready to march wherever it may be necessary, to the assistance of your Majesty's allies.

"By this immense developement of forces, the interests, the consideration of France, and the safety of her allies, will be guaranteed against all events.

"The French people will feel the force of circumstances; it will render fresh homage to this truth, so frequently proclaimed by your Majesty from the height of your throne, that there is no repose for Europe till England shall have been forced to conclude a Peace.

"It is not in vain, Sire, that you have given France the title of the 'Grand Nation'—no effort is painful to her when the object is to evince her love for your Majesty, and her devotion to the glory of the French name.

"I join to this report the documents relative to the defection of General D'York.

"I am, with the most profound respect, Sire,

"Your Majesty's very humble, very obedient

"and faithful subject,

"*Paris, 9th Jan.* 1813. The DUKE of BASSANO.

COPY OF A LETTER FROM COUNT ST. MARSEN TO THE MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

"*Berlin, Jan* 1.

"MONSEIGNEUR—An Aid-de-Camp from the Duke of Tarente, dispatched by the Prince of Neufchatel, has reached me. He brought me the inclosed dispatch from the Major-General, with the letters which accompanied it. The whole arrived at the moment when I was to the house of the Marshal the Duke of Castiglioni, with the Chancellor Baron de Hardenberg, Count de Narbonne, and Prince de Hatzfeld. Baron Hardenberg appeared indignant; he immediately went to the King, who had just returned to the city. I am assured the King has determined to dismiss General D'York, cause him to be arrested, give the command to General Kleist, call upon the troops, although there is but very little probability that they can be withdrawn, and to enjoin them to place themselves under the orders of the King of Naples; to address all orders to this Prince; to publish to the French army at Potsdam, in Silesia, in the Gazettes, an *Ordre du Jour* in consequence of it. In short, I am assured, that on this occasion the King has again publicly manifested his attachment to the cause of his Imperial Majesty and King, and his indignation at what had just taken place.—I have the honour, &c.

"The Count de ST. MARSEN."

LETTER FROM THE DUKE OF TARENTE TO THE PRINCE MAJOR-GENERAL.

"*Tilsit, Dec.* 31.

"MONSEIGNEUR—After four days of expectation, inquietude, and anguish, which one part of the Prussian corps has experienced respecting the fate of the rear-guard, which, from Mitlau, followed me at one march distant, I at last am informed by letter from General D'York, that he himself had decided the fate of the Prussian corps.—I here transmit a copy of this letter, upon which I will not allow myself to make any reflection; it will excite the indignation of every honourable man.—General Massenbach, who was here with me with two batteries, six battalions, and six squadrons, set out this morning without my orders, to repass the Niemen. He is going to rejoin General D'York. He thus abandons us before the enemy. Accept, &c. The Marshal Duke of TARENTE."

LETTER FROM GENERAL D'YORK TO THE DUKE OF TARENTE.

"*Tauroggen, Dec.* 30.

"MONSEIGNEUR,—After very painful marches, it was not possible for me to continue them without being attacked on my flanks and rear; it was this that retarded my junction with your Excellency, and left me to choose between the alternative of losing the greater part of my troops, and all the material, which alone insured my subsistence. On saving the whole, I have thought it my duty to conclude a convention, by which the assembling of the Prussian troops is to take place in Eastern Prussia, which, by the retreat of the French army, is in the power of the Russian army. The Prussian troops will form a neutral corps, and will not commit hostilities agai st either party. Subsequent events, the consequence of negocia ions which are to take place between the Belligerent powers, will decide their future fate.—I hasten to inform your Excellency of a proceeding to which I have been forced by weighty circumstances.—Whatever be the judgment that the world may pass upon my conduct, I shall be very indifferent to it.—Duty towards my troops, and the most mature deliberation, dictated it; the most pure motives, whatever appearances may be, guided me. In making this declaration to you, Monseigneur, I acquit myself of obligation towards you, and beg of you to accept the assurances of the most profound respect, with which I am, &c.

"D'YORK."

LETTER FROM LIEUT.-GENERAL DE MASSENBACH, TO MARSHAL THE DUKE OF TARENTE.

"General D'York's letter will already have informed your Excellency, that my last step was dictated to me, and that I could alter nothing, because the precautionary measures which your Excellency ordered to be taken this night, made me sub-

pect, that perhaps you intended to detain me by force, or in the present case disarm my troops. It was therefore necessary for me to take the part I did, to join my troops to the convention which the commanding General had signed, and of which he gave information and instruction this morning.—Your Excellency will pardon my not having personally informed you of the proceeding; it was to spare myself a sensation very painful to my heart, because the sentiments of respect and esteem for the person of your Excellency, which I shall preserve to the end of my life, would have prevented me from doing my duty. The Lieut.-General MASSENBACH."

NAPOLEON by the Grace of God and the Constitutions, Emperor of the French, King of Italy, Protector of the Confederation of the Rhine, Mediator of the Swiss Confederation, &c. &c. to whom these presents may come greeting:—

The Senate, after having heard the Orators of the Council of State, has decreed, and we ordain as follows:—

DECREE.

"Art. I.—350,000 men are placed at the disposal of the Minister at War, to wit:—1st. 100,000 men forming the 100 cohorts of the first Ban of the National Guards.—2d. 100,000 men of the Conscription of 1809, 1810, 1811, and 1812, taken from among those who have not been called upon to make a part of the active army.—3d. 150,000 of the Conscription of 1812.

"II.—In the execution of the preceding Article, the hundred cohorts of the first Ban shall cease to form a part of the National Guard, and shall form a part of the active army.—Such men as have married before the publication of this present Senatus Consultum, cannot be designated to make a part of the levies taken on the Conscriptions for the years 1809, 1810, 1811, and 1812.—The 150,000 men of the Conscription of 1814 shall be levied in the course of the year, at such time as shall be designated by the Minister at War.

"Given at our Palace of the Thuilleries, on the 11th January. "NAPOLEON."

GERMANY.

LEIPSIC, DEC. 26.—All the States of the Confederation are augmenting their military. The conscription having been every where introduced, this augmentation will not meet with any difficulty. We are assured that the contingents of the Princes of the Confederation to the Grand Army will likewise be considerably reinforced.

DECEMBER 30.—According to authentic intelligence from Berlin, the army which has so much suffered from an extreme cold, which took place so early, and against which it was not prepared, is posted behind the Niemen. This measure was necessary on account of the impossibility of finding good winter-quarters in Lithuania. According to the last intelligence, the army was behind Kowno; the Duke of Tarento had occupied Tilsit with the tenth corps, the Prince of Schwartzenberg was at Grodno, and General Regnier at Bizen.

AUGSBURGH, DEC. 30.—The Vienna Journals have published the details of the movements of the Grand Army, which fully agree with those of the 29th Bulletin. They further add, that the Russian regular troops have suffered so much by the actions in which they were engaged, by their forced marches, by want of subsistence, and from the extreme rigour of the cold, that they were obliged to make a retrograde movement to find cantonments, and that the Cossacks were the only troops which have disturbed the march of the French and their Allies.

JANUARY [illegible] the following article appears in the *Gazette Un[illegible]*

"Ne[illegible] upon the power of the great French Empire [illegible] manner as at the present mom[illegible] [illegible] are disposable in the interior. The 100 cohorts of the National Guard furnish 100 battalions, and 100 companies of artillery. These troops, raised within a year, are composed of men from 22 to 30 years of age, and consequently of an age to support the fatigues of war. The Conscription of 1813 has furnished 160,000 men, raised since the 1st of September. They are armed, clothed, and incorporated with the regiments. Thirty thousand men, old troops, hitherto employed in the service of the marine, are also disposable, since the sailors and gunners of the marine replace them in their service. Besides these 30,000 men who are in the interior, 30,000 others, commanded by Gen. Grenier, are now traversing Bavaria. Seventy thousand men from the corps of the Duke of Castiglione, who are on the Oder, and the division which occupied Pomerania, is at present at Dantzic. These three corps, between the Rhine and the Vistula, form 100,000 men, all Frenchmen, of whom not one has taken part in the battles of the Grand Army. Add to these the reserves which Italy and the other Allies offer to France; and only a few months will be necessary to add 200,000 fighting men to those of whom France can already dispose."

PRUSSIA.

KONINGSBURGH, DEC. 27.—We have a great number of French officers here. The King of Naples yesterday reviewed Gen. Heudelit's corps. This fine division, composed of three brigades, and having a numerous artillery, arrived from Dantzic. We are informed that Gen. Heudelit's division will proceed to Tilsit, where, it is said, the tenth corps has arrived. This corps, which has not made long marches, is in a very fine state. It is estimated at 30,000 men. Our King has just ordered that a detachment of 5000 men, assembled at Graudenz, shall set out to reinforce the Prussian troops which form a part of the tenth corps.

DANTZICK, DEC. 18.—Gen. Count Rapp, the Emperor's Aid-de-Camp, is arrived here, to reassume the command of the place. The Prince of Neufchatel writes from Konigsberg, under date of Dec. 29, that Count Lariboissiert, First Inspector General, and Commandant of Artillery, is dead, and that the General of Division, Eble, has taken the command.

POLAND.

WARSAW, DEC. 25.—Prince Joseph Poniatowski, our General in Chief and Minister at War, who distinguished himself in the last campaign, has been here eight days, and shows the greatest activity in completing the army. The regiments which compose the 5th corps have reached the Duchy; twenty thousand conscripts, the levy of which was ordered two months ago, daily arrive at the depots, where they find their clothing and arms. Our army will soon be completed; it has brought back 30 pieces of cannon, and its horse-equipages, which at first caused astonishment; but it is explained on what account it was more fortunate than the other corps of the Grand Army; our horses were inured to the climate; they were better able to resist the cold, and their conductors were more accustomed to take precautions, which tended to their preservation. The demand of ten thousand horses ordered in the Departments, for remounting our cavalry, has been executed, and the first convoy of remount has already arrived at the corps. Our fortresses of Thorn, Modlin, Seerock, Prague, and Zamosc, are in very good condition, and well provisioned.

STATE PAPER.

DECLARATION.

The earnest endeavours of the Prince Regent to preserve the

having unfortunately failed, his Royal Highness, acting in the name and on the behalf of his Majesty, deems it proper publicly to declare the causes and origin of the war, in which the Government of the United States has compelled him to engage.

No desire of conquest, or other ordinary motive of aggression, has been, or can be with any colour of reason, in this case, imputed to Great Britain: that her commercial interests were on the side of peace, if war could have been avoided without the sacrifice of her maritime rights, or without an injurious submission to France, is a truth which the American Government will not deny.

His Royal Highness does not, however, mean to rest on the favourable presumption to which he is entitled. He is prepared by an exposition of the circumstances which have led to the present war, to show that Great Britain has throughout acted towards the United States of America with a spirit of amity, forbearance, and conciliation; and to demonstrate the inadmissible nature of those pretensions which have at length unhappily involved the two countries in war.

It is well known to the world, that it has been the invariable object of the Ruler of France to destroy the power and independence of the British Empire, as the chief obstacle to the accomplishment of his ambitious designs.

He first contemplated the possibility of assembling such a naval force in the Channel as, combined with a numerous flotilla, should enable him to disembark in England an army sufficient, in his conception, to subjugate this country; and through the conquest of Great Britain he hoped to realize his prospect of universal empire.

By the adoption of an enlarged and provident system of internal defence, and by the valour of his Majesty's fleets and armies, this design was entirely frustrated; and the naval force of France, after the most signal defeats, was compelled to retire from the ocean.

An attempt was then made to effectuate the same purpose by other means: a system was brought forward by which the Ruler of France hoped to annihilate the commerce of Great Britain, to shake her public credit, and to destroy her revenue; to render useless her maritime superiority, and so to avail himself of his continental ascendancy, as to constitute himself in a great measure the arbiter of the ocean, notwithstanding the destruction of his fleets.

With this view, by the Decree of Berlin, followed by that of Milan, he declared the British territories to be in a state of blockade; and that all commerce, or even correspondence, with Great Britain was prohibited. He decreed that every vessel and cargo, which had entered or was found proceeding to a British port, or which, under any circumstances, had been visited by a British ship of war, should be lawful prize: he declared all British goods and produce, wherever found, and however acquired, whether coming from the Mother Country or her colonies, subject to confiscation: he further declared to be denationalized the flag of neutral ships that should be found offending against these his Decrees: and he gave to this project of universal tyranny, the name of the Continental System.

For these attempts to ruin the commerce of Great Britain, by means subversive of the clearest rights of neutral nations, France endeavoured in vain to rest her justification upon the previous conduct of his Majesty's Government.

Under circumstances of unparalleled provocation, his Majesty had abstained from any measure which the ordinary rules of the Law of Nations did not fully warrant. Never was the maritime superiority of a Belligerent over his enemy more complete and decided. Never was the opposite Belligerent so formidably dangerous in his power, and in his policy, to the liberties of all other nations. France had already trampled so openly and systematically on the most sacred rights of Neutral Powers, as might well have justified the placing her out of the pale of civilized nations. Yet in this extreme case, Great Britain had so used her naval ascendancy, that her enemy could find no just cause of complaint: and in order to give to these lawless Decrees the appearance of retaliation, the Ruler of France was obliged to advance principles of maritime law unsanctioned by any other authority than his own arbitrary will.

relations of peace and amity with the United States of America. The pretext for these Decrees were, first, that Great Britain had exercised the rights of war against private persons, their ships, and goods; as if the only object of legitimate hostility on the ocean were the public property of a State, or as if the Edicts and the Courts of France itself had not at all times enforced this right with peculiar rigour; secondly, that the British Orders of Blockade, instead of being confined to fortified towns, had, as France asserted, been unlawfully extended to commercial towns and ports, and to the mouths of rivers; and thirdly, that they had been applied to places, and to the coasts, which neither were nor could be actually blockaded. The last of these charges is not founded in fact; whilst the others, even by the admission of the American Government, are utterly groundless in point of law.

Against these Decrees, his Majesty protested and appealed; he called upon the United States to assert their own rights, and to vindicate their independence, thus menaced and attacked; and as France had declared that she would confiscate every vessel which should touch in Great Britain, or be visited by British ships of war, his Majesty, having previously issued the Order of January, 1807, as an act of mitigated retaliation, was at length compelled, by the persevering violence of the enemy, and the continued acquiescence of Neutral Powers, to revisit upon France, in a more effectual manner, the measure of her own injustice; by declaring, in an Order in Council, bearing date the 11th of November, 1807, that no neutral vessel should proceed to France, or to any of the countries from which, in obedience to the dictates of France, British commerce was excluded, without first touching at a port in Great Britain, or her dependencies. At the same time his Majesty intimated his readiness to repeal the Orders in Council, whenever France should rescind her Decrees, and return to the accustomed principles of maritime warfare; and at a subsequent period, as a proof of his Majesty's sincere desire to accommodate, as far as possible, his defensive measures to the convenience of Neutral Powers, the operation of the Orders in Council was, by an order issued in April, 1809, limited to a blockade of France, and of the countries subjected to her immediate dominion.

Systems of violence, oppression, and tyranny, can never be suppressed, or even checked, if the Power against which such injustice is exercised, be debarred from the right of full and adequate retaliation: or if the measures of the retaliating Power are to be considered as matters of just offence to neutral nations, whilst the measures of original aggression and violence are to be tolerated with indifference, submission, or complacency.

The Government of the United States did not fail to remonstrate against the Orders in Council of Great Britain. Although they knew that these Orders would be revoked, if the Decrees of France, which had occasioned them, were repealed, they resolved at the same moment to resist the conduct of both Belligerents, instead of requiring France in the first instance to rescind her Decrees. Applying most unjustly the same measure of resentment to the aggressor, and to the party aggrieved, they adopted measures of commercial resistance against both—a system of resistance, which, however varied in the successive Acts of Embargo, Non-Intercourse, or Non-Importation, was evidently unequal in its operation, and principally levelled against the superior commerce and maritime power of Great Britain.

The same partiality towards France was observable in their negociations, as in their measures of alleged resistance. Application was made to both Belligerents for a revocation of their respective Edicts; but the terms in which they were made were widely different. Of France was required a revocation only of the Berlin and Milan Decrees, although many other Edicts, grossly violating the neutral commerce of the United States, had been promulgated by that Power. No security was demanded that the Berlin and Milan Decrees, even if revoked, should not, under some other form, be re-established: and a direct engagement was offered, that upon such revocation, the American Government would take part in the war against Great Britain, if Great Britain did not immediately rescind her Orders: whereas no corresponding engagement was offered as

Great Britain, of whom it was required, not only that the Orders in Council should be repealed, but that no others of a similar nature should be issued, and that the blockade of May, 1806, should be also abandoned. This blockade, established and enforced according to accustomed practice, had not been objected to by the United States at the time it was issued. Its provisions were, on the contrary, represented by the American Minister, resident in London at the time, to have been so framed as to afford, in his judgment, a proof of the friendly disposition of the British Cabinet towards the United States.

Great Britain was thus called upon to abandon one of her most important maritime rights, by acknowledging the Order of Blockade in question to be one of the edicts which violated the commerce of the United States, although it had never been so considered in the previous negociations; and although the President of the United States had recently consented to abrogate the Non-Intercourse Act, on the sole condition of the Orders in Council being revoked, thereby distinctly admitting these Orders to be the only edicts which fell within the contemplation of the law under which he acted. A proposition so hostile to Great Britain could not but be proportionally encouraging to the pretensions of the enemy; as by thus alleging that the blockade of May, 1806, was illegal, the American Government virtually justified, so far as depended on them, the French Decrees.

After this proposition had been made, the French Minister for Foreign Affairs, if not in concert with that Government, at least in conformity with its views, in a dispatch, dated the 5th of August, 1810, and addressed to the American Minister resident at Paris, stated that the Berlin and Milan decrees were revoked, and that their operation would cease from the 1st day of November following, provided his Majesty would revoke his Orders in Council, and renounce the new principles of blockade; or that the United States would cause their rights to be respected; meaning thereby, that they would resist the retaliatory measures of Great Britain.

Although the repeal of the French Decrees thus announced was evidently contingent, either on concessions to be made by Great Britain, (concessions to which it was obvious Great Britain could not submit,) or on measures to be adopted by the United States of America, the American President at once considered the repeal as absolute. Under that pretence the Non-Importation Act was strictly enforced against Great Britain, whilst the ships of war and merchant ships of the enemy were received into the harbours of America.

The American Government, assuming the repeal of the French Decrees to be absolute and effectual, most unjustly required Great Britain, in conformity to her declarations, to revoke her Orders in Council. The British Government denied that the repeal, which was announced in the letter of the French Minister for Foreign Affairs, was such as ought to satisfy Great Britain; and in order to ascertain the true character of the measure adopted by France, the Government of the United States was called upon to produce the Instrument, by which the alleged repeal of the French Decrees had been effected. If these Decrees were really revoked, such an instrument must exist, and no satisfactory reason could be given for withholding it.

At length, on the 21st May, 1812, and not before, the American Minister in London did produce a copy, or at least what purported to be a copy, of such an instrument.

It professed to bear date the 28th of April, 1811, long subsequent to the dispatch of the French Minister of Foreign Affairs of the 5th of August, 1810, or even the day named therein, viz. the 1st Nov. following, when the operation of the French Decrees was to cease. This instrument expressly declared that those French Decrees were repealed in consequence of the American Legislature having, by their Act of the 1st of March, 1811, provided, that British ships and merchandize should be excluded from the ports and harbours of the United States.

By this instrument, the only document produced by America as a repeal of the French Decrees, it appears beyond a possibility of doubt or cavil, that the alleged repeal of the French Decrees was conditional, as Great Britain had asserted; and not absolute or final, as had been maintained by America; that they were not repealed at the time they were stated to be repealed by the American Government: that they were not repealed in conformity with a proposition, simultaneously made to both Belligerents, but that in consequence of a previous Act on the part of the American Government, they were repealed in favour of one Belligerent, to the prejudice of the other: that the American Government having adopted measures restrictive upon the commerce of both Belligerents, in consequence of Edicts issued by both, rescinded these measures, as they affected that Power which was the aggressor, whilst they put them in full operation against the party aggrieved, although the Edicts of both Powers continued in force; and, lastly, that they excluded the ships of war belonging to one Belligerent, whilst they admitted into their ports and harbours the ships of war belonging to the other, in violation of one of the plainest and most essential duties of a Neutral Nation.

Although the Instrument thus produced was by no means that general and unqualified revocation of the Berlin and Milan Decrees which Great Britain had continually demanded, and had a full right to claim; and although this Instrument, under all the circumstances of its appearance at that moment, for the first time, was open to the strongest suspicions of its authenticity;—yet as the Minister of the United States produced it, as purporting to be a copy of the Instrument of revocation, the Government of Great Britain, desirous of meeting, if possible, to the ancient and accustomed principles of Maritime War, determined upon revoking conditionally the Orders in Council. Accordingly, in the month of June last, his Royal Highness the Prince Regent was pleased to declare in Council, in the name and on the behalf of his Majesty, that the Orders in Council should be revoked, as far as respected the ships and property of the United States, from the 1st of August following. This revocation was to continue in force, provided the Government of the United States should, within a time to be limited, repeal their Restrictive Laws against British commerce. His Majesty's Minister in America was expressly ordered to declare to the Government of the United States, "that this measure had been adopted by the Prince Regent, in the earnest wish and hope, either that the Government of France, by further relaxations of its system, might render perseverance on the part of Great Britain in retaliatory measures unnecessary; or if this hope should prove delusive, that his Majesty's Government might be enabled, in the absence of all irritating and restrictive regulations on either side, to enter with the Government of the United States into amicable explanations, for the purpose of ascertaining whether, if the necessity of retaliatory measures should unfortunately continue to operate, the particular measures to be acted upon by Great Britain could be rendered more acceptable to the American Government, than those hitherto pursued."

In order to provide for the contingency of a Declaration of War on the part of the United States, previous to the arrival in America of the said Order of Revocation, Instructions were sent to his Majesty's Minister Plenipotentiary accredited to the United States (the execution of which instructions, in consequence of the discontinuance of Mr. Foster's functions, were at a subsequent period entrusted to Admiral Sir John Borlase Warren), directing him to propose a cessation of hostilities, should they have commenced; and further to offer a simultaneous repeal of the Orders in Council on the one side, and of the Restrictive Laws on British ships and commerce on the other.

They were also respectively empowered to acquaint the American Government, in reply to any inquiries with respect to the blockade of May, 1806, whilst the British Government must continue to maintain its legality, "that in point of fact this particular blockade had been discontinued for a length of time, having been merged in the general retaliatory blockade of the enemy's ports under the Orders in Council, and that his Majesty's Government had no intention of recurring to this, or to any other of the blockades of the enemy's ports, founded upon the ordinary and accustomed principles of Maritime Law, which were in force previous to the Orders in Council, without a new notice to Neutral Powers in the usual form."

The American Government, before they received intimation of the course adopted by the British Government, had, in fact,

proceeded to the extreme measures of declaring war, and issuing "Letters of Marque," notwithstanding they were previously in possession of the report of the French Minister for Foreign Affairs, of the 12th of March, 1812, promulgating anew the Berlin and Milan Decrees, as fundamental laws of the French Empire, under the false and extravagant pretext, that the monstrous principles therein contained were to be found in the Treaty of Utrecht, and were therefore binding upon all States. From the penalties of this code no nation was to be exempt, which did not accept it, not only as the rule of its own conduct, but as a law, the observance of which it was also required to enforce upon Great Britain.

In a Manifesto, accompanying their Declaration of Hostilities, in addition to the former complaints against the Orders in Council, a long list of grievances was brought forward; some trivial in themselves, others which had been mutually adjusted, but none of them such as were ever before alleged by the American Government to be grounds for war.

As if to throw additional obstacles in the way of peace, the American Congress at the same time passed a law, prohibiting all intercourse with Great Britan, of such a tenour, as deprived the Executive Government, according to the President's own construction of that Act, of all power of restoring the relations of friendly intercourse between the two States, so far, at least, as concerned their commercial intercourse, until Congress should re-assemble.

The President of the United States has, it is true, since proposed to Great Britain an Armistice: not, however, on the admission, that the cause of war hitherto relied on was removed; but on condition, that Great Britain, as a preliminary step, should do away a cause of war, now brought forward as such for the first time; namely, that she should abandon the exercise of her undoubted right of search, to take from American merchant vessels British seamen, the natural born subjects of his Majesty; and this concession was required upon a mere assurance that Laws would be enacted by the Legislature of the United States, to prevent such seamen from entering into their service: but independent of the objection to an exclusive reliance on a foreign State, for the conservation of so vital an interest, no explanation was or could be afforded by the agent who was charged with this overture, either as to the main principles upon which such laws were to be founded, or as to the provisions which it was proposed they should contain. This proposition having been objected to, a second proposal was made, again offering an Armistice, provided the British Government would secretly stipulate to renounce the exercise of this right in a Treaty of Peace. An immediate and formal abandonment of its exercise, as preliminary to a cessation of hostilities, was not demanded; but his Royal Highness the Prince Regent was required, in the name and on the behalf of his Majesty, secretly to abandon what the former overture had proposed to him publicly to concede. This most offensive proposition was also rejected, being accompanied, as the former had been, by other demands of the most exceptionable nature, and especially of indemnity for all American vessels detained and condemned under the Orders in Council, or under what were termed illegal blockades—a compliance with which demands, exclusive of all other objections, would have amounted to an absolute surrender of the rights on which those Orders and blockades were founded. Had the American Government been sincere in representing the Orders in Council as the only subject of difference between Great Britain and the United States calculated to lead to hostilities, it might have been expected, so soon as the revocation of those Orders had been officially made known to them, that they would have spontaneously recalled their "letters of marque," and manifested a disposition immediately to restore the relations of peace and amity between the two Powers. But the conduct of the Government of the United States by no means corresponded with such reasonable expectations. The Order in Council of the 23d of June being officially communicated in America, the Government of the United States saw nothing in the repeal of the Orders in Council, which should of itself restore peace, unless Great Britain were prepared, in the first instance, substantially to relinquish the right of impressing her own seamen, when found on board the American ships. The proposal of an armistice, and of a simultaneous repeal of the restrictive measures on both sides, subsequently made by the Commanding Officer of his Majesty's naval forces on the American coast, were received in the same hostile spirit by the Government of the United States. The suspension of the practice of impressement was insisted upon, in the correspondence which passed on that occasion, as a necessary preliminary to a cessation of hostilities: negociation, it was stated, might take place without any suspension of the exercise of this right, and also without any armistice being concluded; but Great Britain was required previously to agree, without any knowledge of the adequacy of the system which could be substituted, to negociate upon the basis of accepting the legislative regulations of a foreign State, as the sole equivalent for the exercise of a right, which she has felt to be essential to the support of her maritime power.

If America, by demanding this preliminary concession, intends to deny the validity of that right, in that denial Great Britain cannot acquiesce; nor will she give countenance to such a pretension, by acceding to its suspension, much less to its abandonment, as a basis on which to treat. If the American Government has devised, or conceives it can devise, regulations, which may safely be accepted by Great Britain, as a substitute for the exercise of the right in question, it is for them to bring forward such a plan for consideration. The British Government has never attempted to exclude this question from amongst those on which the two States might have to negociate; it has, on the contrary, uniformly professed its readiness to receive and discuss any proposition on this subject, coming from the American Government: it has never asserted any exclusive right as to the impressment of British seamen from American vessels, which it was not prepared to acknowledge as appertaining equally to the Government of the United States, with respect to American seamen when found on board British merchant ships; but it cannot, by acceding to such a basis in the first instance, either assume or admit that to be practicable, which, when attempted on former occasions, has always been found to be attended with great difficulties; such difficulties as the British Commissioners in 1806 expressly declared, after an attentive consideration of the suggestions brought forward by the Commissioners on the part of America, they were unable to surmount.—Whilst this proposition, transmitted through the British Admiral, was pending in America, another communication on the subject of an armistice was unofficially made to the British Government in this country. The agent, from whom this proposition was received, acknowledged that he did not consider that he had any authority himself to sign an agreement on the part of his Government. It was obvious that any stipulations entered into, in consequence of this overture, would have been binding on the British Government, whilst the Government of the United States would have been free to refuse or accept them, according to the circumstances of the moment. This proposition was, therefore, necessarily declined.—After this exposition of the circumstances which preceded, and which have followed the declaration of war by the United States, his Royal Highness the Prince Regent, acting in the name and on the behalf of his Majesty, feels himself called upon to declare the leading principles by which the conduct of Great Britain has been regulated in the transactions connected with these discussions. His Royal Highness can never acknowledge any blockade whatsoever to be illegal, which has been duly notified, and is supported by an adequate force, merely upon the ground of its extent, or because the ports or coasts blockaded are not at the same time invested by land. His Royal Highness can never admit, that neutral trade with Great Britain can be constituted a public crime, the commission of which can expose the ships of any Power whatever to be denationalized. His Royal Highness can never admit, that Great Britain can be debarred of its right of just and necessary retaliation, through the fear of eventually affecting the interest of a neutral. His Royal Highness can never admit, that in the exercise of the undoubted and hitherto undisputed right of searching neutral merchant vessels in time of war, the impressment of British seamen, when found therein,

can be deemed any violation of a neutral flag. Neither can he admit, that the taking such seamen from on board such vessels can be considered by any neutral State as a hostile measure, or a justifiable cause of war. There is no right more clearly established than the right which a Sovereign has to the allegiance of his subjects, more especially in time of war. Their allegiance is no optional duty, which they can decline and resume at pleasure. It is a call which they are bound to obey: it began with their birth, and can only terminate with their existence. If a similarity of language and manners may make the exercise of this right more liable to partial mistakes and occasional abuse, when practised towards vessels of the United States, the same circumstances make it also a right, with the exercise of which, in regard to such vessels, it is more difficult to dispense. But if to the practice of the United States to harbour British seamen, be added their assumed *right to transfer* the allegiance of British subjects, and thus to cancel the jurisdiction of their legitimate Sovereign, by acts of naturalization and certificates of citizenship, which they pretend to be as valid out of their own territory as within it, it is obvious that to abandon this ancient right of Great Britain, and to admit these novel pretensions of the United States, would be to expose to danger the very foundation of our maritime strength.—Without entering minutely into the other topics which have been brought forward by the Government of the United States, it may be proper to remark, that whatever the Declaration of the United States may have asserted, Great Britain never did demand that they should force British manufactures into France; and she formally declared her willingness entirely to forego, or modify, in concert with the United States, the system, by which a commercial intercourse with the enemy had been allowed under the protection of licenses, provided the United States would act towards her and towards France with real impartiality. The Government of America, if the differences between States are not interminable, has as little right to notice the affair of the Chesapeake. The aggression, in this instance, on the part of a British officer, was acknowledged; his conduct was disapproved, and a reparation was regularly tendered by Mr. Foster on the part of his Majesty, and accepted by the Government of the United States.—It is not less unwarranted in its allusion to the mission of Mr. Henry; a mission undertaken without the authority, or even knowledge, of his Majesty's Government, and which Mr. Foster was authorised formally and officially to disavow. The charge of exciting the Indians to offensive measures against the United States is equally void of foundation. Before the war began, a policy the most opposite had been uniformly pursued, and proof of this was tendered by Mr. Foster to the American Government.—Such are the causes of war which have been put forward by the Government of the United States. But the real origin of the present contest will be found in that spirit, which has long unhappily actuated the Councils of the United States: their marked partiality in palliating and assisting the aggressive tyranny of France; their systematic endeavours to inflame their people against the defensive measures of Great Britain; their ungenerous conduct towards Spain, the intimate ally of Great Britain; and their unworthy desertion of the cause of other neutral nations. It is through the prevalence of such councils, that America has been associated in policy with France. And under what conduct on the part of France has the Government of the United States thus lent itself to the enemy? The contemptuous violation of the Commercial Treaty of the year 1800 between France and the United States; the treacherous seizure of all American vessels and cargoes in every harbour subject to the controul of the French arms: the tyrannical principles of the Berlin and Milan Decrees, and the confiscations under them; the subsequent condemnations under the Rambouilet Decree, antedated or concealed to render it the more effectual; the French commercial regulations, which render the traffic of the United States with France almost illusory; the burning of their merchant ships at sea, long after the alleged repeal of the French Decrees—all these acts of violence on the part of France produce from the Government of the United States only such complaints as end in acquiescence and submission, or are accompanied by suggestions for enabling France to give the semblance of a legal form to her usurpations, by converting them into municipal regulations.

This disposition of the Government of the United States—this complete subserviency to the Ruler of France—this hostile temper toward Great Britain, are evident in almost every page of the Official Correspondence of the American with the French Government. Against this course of conduct, the real cause of the present war, the Prince Regent solemnly protests. While contending against France, in defence not only of the liberties of Great Britain, but of the world, his Royal Highness was entitled to look for a far different result. From their common origin,—from their common interest,—from their professed principles of freedom and independence,—the United States were the last Power to which Great Britain could have expected to find a willing instrument and abettor of French tyranny. Disappointed in this just expectation, the Prince Regent will still pursue the policy which the British Government has so long and invariably maintained in repelling injustice, and in supporting the general rights of nations; and, under the favour of Providence, relying on the justice of his cause, and the tried loyalty and firmness of the British nation, his Royal Highness confidently looks forward to a successful issue to the contest in which he has thus been compelled most reluctantly to engage.

Westminster, January 9, 1813.

PROVINCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

YORK SPECIAL COMMISSION.—JAN. 7.—*John Schofield* the younger, of Nether Thong, aged 21, was indicted for feloniously shooting at, or causing, aiding, and abetting some person to shoot at, with intent to murder, John Hinchliffe, of Upper Thong, clothier, in July last.—It appeared that Hinchliffe had frequently declared he did not know the person who had knocked him up, and shot at him. Prisoner left home on the morning of the 23d July, and went to London, where he was apprehended; prisoner admitted he absconded at the time mentioned, but that it was in consequence of a conversation he had with Hinchliffe some time before, and not because he had shot at Hinchliffe.—An *alibi* was set up on behalf of the prisoner. The Jury withdrew nearly half an hour, and brought in a verdict of *Not Guilty*.

JAN. 8.—*John Eadon*, aged 34, was found guilty of administering an unlawful oath to Richard Howells, of Barnsley, in the county of York, in May last.

John Raines the elder, aged 66; *Charles Milnes*, 22; *John Baines* the younger, 34; *William Blakeborough*, 22; *Geo. Duckworth*, 23; and *Zachary Baines*, 15, all of Halifax, were indicted for administering an unlawful oath to John M'Donald, at Halifax, on the 8th July last. *Alibis* were set up for each of the prisoners, but the Jury, who retired about five minutes, returned a verdict of *Guilty* against the five first named prisoners, and Zachary Baines, the boy, *Not Guilty*.

JAN. 9.—*James Haigh*, of Dalton, aged 28; *Jonathan Deane*, of Huddersfield, aged 30; *John Ogden*, aged 26; *James Brook*, aged 22; *Thomas Brook*, 32; *John Walker*, of Longroyd Bridge, aged 31; and *John Hirst*, of Liversedge, aged 28, were tried for riotously assembling with others, and attacking the Mill of Mr. William Cartwright, at Rawfolds, on the 11th April last. Mr. C. being apprehensive of an attack being intended to be made upon his mill, took such means for defending it as he judged best; accordingly he slept there about six weeks before the attack was made, and he had nine persons in the mill with him on the night of the attack, they were his own men. Some of them being indisposed about the week before, he procured the assistance of five soldiers to supply their place.—Mr. Cartwright retired to rest about twelve o'clock, and about a quarter of an hour afterwards heard the barking of a large dog. Mr. C. arose, and while opening the door, heard a breaking of windows on the ground-floor, and also a firing into the upper and lower windows, and a violent hammering at the door. Mr. C. and his men immediately flew

to their arms; a bell that had been placed at the top of the mill, for the purpose of alarming the neighbours, being rung by some one of his men, the persons inside the mill discharged their pieces from loop-holes in the side of the mill. The fire was returned regularly on both sides, that is, from within and without. The mob, which appeared to be numerous, called out "Bang up lads, in with you, keep close; damn that bell, get to it, (the rope almost immediately broke), damn 'em, kill 'em all." The numbers assembled were considerable. The attack continued about 20 minutes. The fire slackened from without, and they heard the cries of the wounded. The men that were wounded were taken care of; they afterwards died. —One of the accomplices of the men charged in the indictment, Wm. Hall, was one of those deluded men connected with Mellor and Thorpe, who have been executed, assembled with many other persons, by the desire of Mellor, in a field belonging to Sir George Armitage, Bart. near ten o'clock, on the night of the 11th of April last. They called their numbers, remained there three-quarters of an hour, and then marched off; Hall's number was 7. Mellor commanded the musket company, another the pistol company, and another the hatchet company; they were formed in lines of ten each. Two of the men, Hall and another, were to go last, and drive up the rear.—Some had hatchets, some hammers, some had sticks, and others had nothing.—Another accomplice gave similar testimony. On the part of the prisoners the defence set up was that of *Alibi*, as to some of them. The Jury retired about an hour, and returned a verdict as follows:—James Haigh, Jon. Dean, John Ogdon, Thos. Brook, and John Walker, *Guilty* —James Brook, John Brook, and John Hirst, *Not Guilty*.—The trial occupied the whole day.

JAN. 11.—*Job Hay*, *John Hill*, and *William Hartley*, were next tried, for a burglary in the house of Mr. George Haigh, of Sculcoates; they were found *Guilty*.

Thursday week, the Grand Jury, after stating that they had no more bills before them, enquired if any more were prepared.—Mr. PARKE said—"I shall, with leave of the Court, answer the question put by the Grand Jury." Their Lordships intimated assent, and Mr. PARKE proceeded:—"My learned Friends and myself have examined the different cases which have not been presented to you; and, considering that many of these people have acted under the influence of other persons, we have, in the exercise of that discretion confided to us by the Crown, declined, at present, to present any other bills before you; and I hope this lenity will produce its proper effects, and that the persons on whom it is exercised, will prove themselves, by their future good conduct, deserving of it. But if it be abused, proceedings against them can be resumed."

JAN. 12.—*James Hay*, *Joseph Crowther*, and *Nathaniel Hoyle*, were found guilty of taking from James Brooke, a promissory note of one pound, and some silver and copper coin.

David Moorhouse and *John Smith* were arraigned upon an indictment for burglary, but Mr. Parke said, he trusted that as the ringleaders of these deluded men were already executed, and several others were under conviction of capital felonies, they would see the error of their ways, and that by the punishment inflicted, and about to be inflicted on those convicted, the peace and tranquility of the county would be restored. The prisoners were therefore acquitted, no evidence being offered on the part of the Crown.—The several prisoners, against whom indictments were preferred and found, were, through the lenity of Government, admitted to bail, on their entering into recognizances, the prisoners in 200*l*. each, and their bail in 100*l* each. Mr. Baron THOMSON then passed sentence on the prisoners.—Fifteen were sentenced to death; six to be transported for seven years; sixteen were discharged on bail; and sixteen were discharged without bail.

EXECUTION OF THE MURDERERS OF MR. HORSFALL.—The execution of these unhappy men took place on Friday week, behind the Castle, at York. Every precaution was taken to render a rescue impracticable. Two troops of cavalry were drawn up in front of the drop, and the avenues to the castle were guarded by infantry. Five minutes before nine o'clock, the prisoners came upon the platform. After the Ordinary had read the accustomed forms of prayer, *George Mellor* prayed for about ten minutes—he spoke with great apparent fervency and devotion, confessing in general the greatness of his sins, but without any allusion to the crime for which he suffered. The surrounding multitude were evidently affected. *William Thorpe* also prayed, but his voice was not so well heard. *Smith* said little, but seemed to join in the devotion with great seriousness.—The prisoners were then moved to the front of the platform, and Mellor said, "Some of my enemies may be here; if there be, I freely forgive them, and all the world, and I hope the world will forgive me."—Thorpe said, "I hope none of those who are now before me will ever come to this place." The executioner then proceeded to perform his fatal office, and the drop fell. They were executed in their irons. They appeared slightly convulsed for a few moments.

TUESDAY'S LONDON GAZETTE.

Admiralty-Office, Jan. 12, 1812.

A letter from Capt. Lumby, of the Narcissus, dated off the island of Navaza, the 25th of November, states that the boats of that ship, under the directions of Lieut. Criric, had captured the American privateer Joseph and Mary, of four guns and seventy-three men; in the approach of the boats under the fire of the privateer, they had one man killed and one wounded; the enemy had three wounded, and surrendered at the moment the boats were preparing to board.

Extract of a Letter from Capt. Hillyar, of his Majesty's ship the Phœbe, dated at Sea, Dec. 23, 1812.

Be pleased to inform their Lordships, that his Majesty's ship under my command captured this evening the American brig privateer Hunter, Mr. Judathan Upton Commander, mounting, at the commencement of the chace, fourteen guns, and having on board 73 men; twelve of the former were thrown overboard when making from us.

BANKRUPTS.

J. Raffield, Edward street, Cavendish-square, builder.
T. Hughes, Cross, Compton Bishop, Somersetshire, dealer.
T. Feaver, Nether Compton, Dorsetshire, linen-manufacturer.
R. Dibley, Whitchurch, Hants, victualler.
J. Consen, Caistor, Lincolnshire, victualler.
J. Turton, Crich, Derbyshire, cotton-spinner.
J. Smith, Failsworth, Manchester, victualler.
R. Pite, Ipswich, baker.
J. Sharp, North Shields, grocer.

SATURDAY'S LONDON GAZETTE.

This Gazette merely contains accounts of the following captures:—The Swordfish, American schooner privateer, of 12 guns and 82 men, by the Elephant and Hermes;—the Blockade, American schooner privateer, of 10 guns and 66 men, by the Charybdis sloop;—and the Dolphin, American letter of marque, of 12 guns and 56 men, by the Colossus.

BANKRUPTS.

J. Palmer, Staining-lane, London, upholsterer.
W. Hayman, Deal, Kent, brandy-dealer.
W. Green, Chapel-street, Middlesex, dealer and chapman.
W. B. Crossley, Tottenham-court Road, Middlesex, gold-beater.
P. Wilson, Shoreditch, Middlesex, haberdasher.
J. Wimpory, Fleet-street, London, boot-maker.
W. Bolton, Oxford-street, ten-dealer.
P. Desvignes, Clerkenwell, watch-case-maker.
W. and J. Bayley, Heaton Norris, Lancashire, cotton-spinners.
J. Stratford, Holborn-Hill, bookseller.
C. Bedford, Norwich, brazier.
J. Palmer, George street, Oxford street, ale brewer.

H. Willmott, Shoreham, Kent, paper-maker.
W. Edmeads and J. Edmeads, Loose, Kent, paper-makers.
R. Collins, Strand, jeweller.
H. Wilkins and J. G. Migault, Liverpool, merchants.
G. Mills, Red Lion-court, Horsleydown, clock-maker.
C. Coleman, Maidstone, apothecary.
T. M. Coppin, Great Prescott-street, Middlesex, merchant.
W. Barnard and R. Arton, of Spencer-street, Northampton-square, Goswell-street, drapers.
A. Davies, London-street, London Road, Southwark, carpenter.
G. Cass, Rood-lane, London, wine-merchant.
W. S. Mason, Moffat-street, City-road, tailor.

PRICE OF STOCKS ON SATURDAY.

Consols.....60 ⅞ | Red. Ann..... ....60⅞

Mr. CONNELL's Letter, with other Communications, next week.

Mr. H., of Deptford, guessed rightly as to the non-insertion of his Communication.

If SCOTO-LOTO will prove his Charges, they shall be inserted in the *Examiner*.

Mr. C. is informed, that there is much difficulty in procuring the first Volume of the *Examiner*.—When obtained, his wishes shall be complied with.—All the other Volumes can be forwarded, if desired.

THE EXAMINER.

LONDON, JAN. 17.

Dispatches were yesterday received from Lord CATHCART, dated the 22d of December, which, it is supposed, will appear to-morrow in an *Extraordinary Gazette*.—They contain, it is said, the following important intelligence:—"In the passage of the Beresina, the Russians took about 20,000 prisoners.—In the pursuit from the Beresina to Wilna, the Russians took about 7000 prisoners more, including baggage, &c. amongst which was a great part of BONAPARTE's personal effects, and very important State Papers.—The French reached Wilna on the 10th December, where the Russians, who got to Wilna also nearly at the same time, took 14,000 prisoners.—Gen. KUTUSOFF has issued a Proclamation to the Poles, offering clemency, and stating, that it was his Imperial Majesty's intention that a new organization of Poland should take place. For this purpose, the EMPEROR left Petersburgh for Wilna on the 19th.—Besides the prisoners, the French are said to have, since the last accounts, lost 200 pieces of cannon, all their magazines, stores, &c. Several General Officers were taken, among whom was General LEFEBVRE, who violated his parole, and run away from Cheltenham.—It was supposed that MACDONALD himself could not escape.—The Austrian army, it is added, might have effected a most favourable diversion in favour of the French, by marching on to Wilna, but Gen. SACKEN hung upon their flank so closely, as to deter them from attempting such a step."

Such is said to be the intelligence transmitted by Lord CATHCART.—The news by the Gottenburgh Mails received yesterday is, of course, of the same kind; and from the Paris Papers it is also quite clear, that the losses suffered by the French have really been enormous.—They state, that the General in Chief of the Prussian army, D'YORK, has withdrawn his whole force from the French army, and has concluded a convention with the Russians, by which the Prussian troops are to remain neutral in Eastern Prussia; and the orders he sent to the Prussian General MASSENBACH, who was with Marshal MACDONALD at Tilsit, with two batteries, six battalions and six squadrons of Prussian troops, to leave the French and join him, have been obeyed. "MASSENBACH set off on the 31st ult." says MACDONALD, "without any orders, to repass the Niemen. He thus abandons us before the enemy."—MACDONALD had evidently taken some steps to detain the Prussian General and disarm his troops; but the General was aware of his intentions, and began his march without loss of time. MACDONALD, it seems, was too weak either to prevent or pursue him.

The King of PRUSSIA is made to express his indignation against his General, and to exclaim loudly against the treason—but what is he but a prisoner himself under a French General, the Governor of the very capital in which he resides.

The Paris Papers, which have arrived to the 13th, have published the correspondence between Gens. D'YORK and MACDONALD. This was laid before the Senate, who immediately passed a *Senatus Consultum* for calling out 350,000 more men.

It is abundantly clear, from all these proceedings, that the failure of NAPOLEON in the North has been most decisive. Had not his losses been of great extent, the defection of between 20 and 30,000 Prussians would never have compelled him to call upon the French people for a supply of 350,000 fresh troops,—a people, as he must well know, sufficiently drained, if not disheartened and discontented, by the dreadful sacrifices they have already submitted to in this eternal war.

Lord WELLINGTON, we know, has retreated into Portugal, and taken up his quarters there, under circumstances of discontent with his own soldiers, that alone render it doubtful whether he will ever return to Spain; but what the French are doing in Spain, except congratulating each other on his Lordship's retreat and waiting for final reinforcements from France, it is difficult to ascertain in a broad way; and as to the Spaniards themselves, it has never been ascertained what they have been doing.—BONAPARTE may be in a little hesitation, which business to set about first.—The remains of his army in the North have taken up positions on the Vistula, though it's leaders seem to be scattering themselves about in various directions, probably to look after and fortify as many wide-extended outposts as possible, and to form an impregnable barrier in the North of Germany, that they may serve both as an obstruction to the Russians in case they should come down, and as a cover and magazine, from which to issue out on their own future operations.—They are also taking this opportunity, no doubt, of refreshing themselves with a little change of scenery, and thawing their fingers at a few comfortable stoves. BONAPARTE, we see, still continues to amuse himself as much as possible, and to seize every occasion of shewing us how hale and hearty he is; and as there is little hope of subduing him by the usual modes of adversity, we heartily wish he would grow sufficiently in love with his young wife and the enjoyments of his Court to get lazy and flexible. A little of what is the ruin of weaker Princes,—luxury,—would be a benefit to him and to all of us.

Some REMARKS on the Declaration against America shall appear next week.

Our readers will observe in the extracts from the French papers, that BONAPARTE refers us to the Duke of BASSANO's letter to Lord CASTLEREAGH, for the terms upon which Europe may have peace. It was dated the 17th of April; and the following, after a preface, was the *projet* transmitted by the Duke of BASSANO:—

"The affairs of the Peninsula, and the Two Sicilies, are the points of difference which appear least to admit of being adjusted. I am authorized to propose to you an arrangement of them on the following basis:—The integrity of Spain shall be guaranteed. France shall renounce all idea of extending her dominions beyond the Pyrennees. The present dynasty shall be declared independent, and Spain shall be governed by a National Constitution of her Cortes. The independence and integrity of Portugal shall be also guaranteed, and the house of Braganza shall have the sovereign authority. The kingdom of Naples shall remain in possession of the present Monarch, and the kingdom of Sicily shall be guaranteed to the present family of Sicily. As a consequence of these stipulations, Spain, Portugal, and Sicily, shall be evacuated by the French and English land and naval forces. With respect to the other objects of discussion, they may be negociated upon this basis, that each power shall retain that of which the other could not deprive it by war. Such are, Sir, the grounds of conciliation offered by his Majesty to his Royal Highness the Prince Regent."

The observations in the *Moniteur*, respecting the Peninsula, deserve our notice. It is too true, that our army was kept for many months without pay; and we fear also, that when the condition of that army shall come to be known, which the exposure of the outrages committed in the retreat will no doubt draw from officers, it will be seen that their distress, privations and fatigue, were little short of what the 29th Bulletin described those of the French to be in Russia. It is horrible to read of the excesses that were committed; but it is also afflicting to hear of the predicament of the troops, who were for three days even without their rations, prowling for sustenance in the woods, drenched with rain, and finding scarcely any thing but acorns or unground corn to eat.—*Morning Chronicle.*

THE DUTY OF A JUDGE.—"When a Judge sees, on either side, a *high hand*, viz. a *violent prosecution, cunning advantages taken, combination, great and powerful friends*, and the like, then the *virtue* of a Judge shines forth, in *making inequality equal:* that he may be able to plant his judgment, as it were, upon even ground."—LORD BACON.—For a beautiful example of BACON's maxim reduced to practice, the reader is requested to refer his recollection to Lord ELLENBOROUGH's dispassionate charge, in the late case of the *King* v. the *Hunts.—Drakard's Paper.*

On Thursday night died, at his house in Great Portland-street, at an advanced age, Mr. IGNATIUS RAIMONDI, long known as a celebrated professor of music, as well as a gentleman of most amiable disposition and manners.

OLD BAILEY.—The trials last week were chiefly for minor offences.—On Friday, *J. Smith*, a woollen-draper, was charged with setting fire to his house in Newgate-street, with intent to defraud the Atlas Insurance Company.—The house was totally destroyed, and the lodgers had a narrow escape.—The circumstances against him were, that he had sent his son out to sleep, and had, just before the fire, purchased turpentine, pitch, links, and other combustibles, at a shop where he did not usually deal.—In his answer to this, he called witnesses to show, that his shop was well stocked, and his circumstances and character good; but, that his wife was in the habit of drinking to excess, and that she probably caused the conflagration. As to the combustibles, he at first denied having them, but afterwards said, that the turpentine, pitch, and shavings, were to be used for painting his house at Bow, pitching a gutter, and lighting the fires.—In reply, the prosecutors proved, that the house had been painted a month before, that the gutter was lined with lead, and that his servant used wood to light the fires.—The Jury, after being out two hours, returned a verdict of *Not guilty.*—Yesterday, *John Langhorne*, a young man of respectable and imposing appearance, was capitally convicted of forging and uttering a bill of exchange for 750*l.* purporting to have been drawn by W. G. Daniels on J. Ridge, Esq. The prisoner was clerk to Mr. Daniels, agent for the recruiting service at Maidstone. The intention was to obtain the money of Mr. Ridge, who is the general agent; and in order to accomplish this, the prisoner wrote several letters to Mr. Ridge, purporting to have been written by his master Mr. Daniels.—The forgery was proved to be the hand writing of the prisoner.

COURT AND FASHIONABLES.

"The amiable Lady De Clifford, under whose maternal care her Royal Highness the Princess Charlotte has spent so many years, has resigned her interesting charge. There were three Ladies candidates for the situation, the Dowager Duchess of Leeds, the Dowager Marchioness of Townshend, and the Dowager Countess of Donegall. The Prince Regent named the Duchess, and her appointment *is* to be for two years. The Prince intimated the appointment to the Princess Charlotte at Windsor, on Monday. The Princess Charlotte is to be presented to the Queen, *or*, in other words, *brought out*, at the Drawing room on the 4th of February; and on the 5th the Prince is to give a magnificent *Fete* at Carlton-House, for which 600 tickets are issued. The workmen are already employed in preparing for the entertainment, by additional rooms and covered-ways, to give easy communication to all the state apartments. A delicate question has arisen, by whom the Princess was to be presented to the Queen; but we understand the Princess of Wales will have the honour to present her Royal Highness at St. James's; and that afterwards the young Princess will appear in public under the auspices of the Duchess of York. If the favourable symptoms of his Majesty's complaint should continue, there is likely to be a brilliant season in the fashionable world, as her Majesty is to hold a Drawing-Room every fortnight."—*Morning Chronicle.*

ARCHITECTURAL LIBERALITY.

——"*Every petting, petty officer, would use Jove's heav'n for thunder.*"

MR. EDITOR,—That evil should originate good, appears part of the scheme of PROVIDENCE. On the down-fall of the Danes, who formerly surveyed our districts, Alfred erected the lasting fabric of our liberties. From a modern District Surveyor,

"Drest in a little brief authority,
"Most ignorant of what he's most assur'd,"

Mr. Soane may suffer inconvenience, and even persecution, for a while; but it will eventually appear, that every gentleman in London has a right to adorn the front of his house as he pleases, provided he injure not his neighbours, and deform not the metropolis.

Such was clearly the intention of Parliament in framing the Building Act; and if any expression has crept into its details, which may seem to authorise a litigious District Surveyor to harass the tasteful and opulent with vexatious proceedings, it is surely high time that the Act were revised, and its constitutional principle restored.

But Mr. Kinnaird is a strictly conscientious youth, it seems, and, in this Act,—heedless or insensible of the intention of the Legislature,—he fancies he has found the precise legal line of duty, and has bound himself by an oath to observe it with rigorous exactitude. Hence no wish on the part of Mr. Soane to adorn Lincoln's-Inn-square; no solid pretension of architectural beauty; no desire to shew gentlemen of fortune how ornamental to the metropolis their private mansions might become, is to atone with the District Surveyor for the smallest trespass on his immaculate legal line. Let our balconies and vitandas henceforth learn to tremble.

We might have been disposed to hope better things;—indeed to *expect* more liberal conduct,—from the sensibility to beauty, and generosity of feeling, which belong to the season of youth: but "the heart of man is treacherous to itself above all things," saith Solomon; and if we may trust another Solomon, *videlicit*, Mr. Kinnaird's friend *Vindex*,—were Mr. Soane a concentration of the genius of all his predecessors, and his structure a union of all the beauties of Grecian architecture, not an inch of indulgence would be granted by the inexorable man of duty. The architectural *Shylock* would still bawl for his bond.—Armed, as he conceives himself to be, with the power and the letter of the law, and reckless of its spirit, he would batter down taste and talent, and lay all architectural projections prostrate in the dust, *ugless* they were "built by Government," or, he should have added, the District Surveyor of St. Giles's.

Vindex attempts, indeed, for his client, a distinction between Mr. Soane's projection and that on the opposite side of Lincoln's-Inn square, by calling the latter "an *open* portico;" as if Mr. Soane's were not open, or not a portico; or as if an open arch could be, in any social respect, hateful and worthy only of demolition, while the spaces between columns were all that is lovely to the sight and refreshing to the soul.

If he doubts whether Mr. Soane's projection be a portico, and is himself open to conviction, let him consult Palladio: if he should still profess to doubt whether a portico be open which has open arches in front, and open arches at either end, his case is hopeless and his occupation gone, for we must in charity suppose his own eyes are *not* open.

I have no wish that this officious Surveyor should molest either the College of Surgeons, or the Gentleman to whom may belong the viranda near the north-east corner of the same square: on the contrary (as I have already stated) my opinion is, that the Act should be liberally interpreted by the intention of those who framed it, and with fit reference to a free country; but this man of duty, who, as *Vindex* assures us, is bound by a solemn oath, should be taught, if he does not know, that in both these cases he has violated the *letter* of his oath, if he has sanctioned them, as much as in the case of Mr. Soane's portico he has violated the spirit of it; and his champion *Vindex* must bear to be told, that the courtly circumstance on which he has rested his prime distinction does not exist. The portico of the Surgeon's College was *not* "built by Government."

Mr. Vindex appears, from his own acknowledgments, to be a Magistrate of some sort, though certainly no judge. He talks, with a *Morning Post* perversion of terms, of "a base and disingenuous attack on the character and talents of a rising young man." Now, it appears to sober men of common sense, that the *attack* proceeded from the other party; nor has Mr. Soane's *defence* been conducted with any thing like baseness or disingenuousness: and that Mr. Kinnaird *is* "a rising young man," (the current cant of empirical patronage) remains to be seen. I suspect he is falling—I mean in the public estimation. A medal from the Royal Academy is alone but a sorry buttress to a towering architectural ambition; and the "*abundant* proofs of his qualifications" is at present but an assertion of *Vindex*, who, as he has told the public of the medal, should also have stated,—if he expected thinking men to regard him,—of what those abundant proofs consisted, and where to find them?

Vindex affects to have discovered *from what quarter* the architectural intelligence, in your paper of January 3, proceeded. I would not be forward to imitate a writer I cannot but condemn, or I should, in charity to him, suppose him to be more nearly related to the young man in question, than he has yet chosen to avow. The natural affections claim some allowance, and the feelings of a father for a favourite child might easily be received in apology for his stepping forward so weakly.

My charity might even have gone further; but there is something so inequitable and insidious, as well as weak, in his proposal of referring the issue of this demolishing scheme to a tribunal, where there is a declared majority of 92 to 43 in favour of Mr. Kinnaird; and something so uncandid, or so intentionally insulting, in saying that Mr. Soane refused to meet the case on *it own* merits, because he declined this reference, that I shall not spare this *Vindex*. He may take leave of "the Professor," as he does in conclusion, with a fresh insult, and fancy he has shot his bolt in security, but he shall not so easily get away from

PRINCIPLE.

MAKING OF BREAD.

SIR,—I observed in your paper of Sunday last the conviction of an opulent baker, at the Hatton-Garden Police-Office, in a very heavy penalty;—I do not mean to attempt to question the justness of that conviction, but I wish to correct an exaggerated statement then made by the magistrate.

The magistrate stated, that 30,000 tons of potatoes were consumed every week by the bakers in bread, &c. Now, sir, on the face of that assertion it must be false, as that would be after the rate of two tons of potatoes to every sack of flour used,—the consumption of flour being, as near as can be calculated, 15,000 sacks per week:—and, sir, I can assure you, for your information, as well as that of the magistrate, that potatoes are made use of for no other purpose than that of fermentation, the bakers being obliged to purchase from the brewers an adulterated composition, which they call yeast, and by which fermentation from potatoes enables the bakers to supply the public with bread much superior in quality than would otherwise be the case.

A RESPECTABLE BAKER.

14th January, 1819.

THE NAVY.

BRITISH NAVAL FORCE.—At sea, 79 ships of the line; nine from 50 to 44 guns—122 frigates—77 sloops and yachts—4 bombs, &c.—161 brigs—54 cutters—52 schooners, &c.—In port and fitting, 39 of the line—11 from 50 to 44 guns—29 frigates—18 sloops—4 bombs, &c.—36 brigs—6 cutters—11 schooners, &c.—Hospital ships, prison ships, &c. 28 of the line—2 from 50 to 44—2 frigates—1 yacht.—Ordinary and repairing for service, 77 of the line—10 from 50 to 44 guns—70 frigates—37 sloops—3 bombs—11 brigs—1 cutter—2 schooners.—Building, 29 of the line—4 from 50 to 44 guns—12 frigates—5 sloops, &c.—3 brigs.—Making a grand total of 1545 vessels.

RUSSIAN NAVY.—58 sail of the line—34 frigates—59 cutters, brigs, &c.—smaller vessels, 220, carrying in all 4,428 pieces of cannon.—In this estimate are included ships of every class and condition, from a first rate to a gun brig; those that are building, under repair, and laid up in ordinary as unserviceable, as well as those that are in commission and fit for immediate service.

SWEDISH NAVY.—The Swedish fleet consists of 12 sail of the line, eight frigates, besides cutters, gun-boats, &c. and there are two ships of the line and three frigates building.

PORTUGUEZE NAVY.—The Portugueze have eight sail of the line, three frigates, and four sloops, at the Brazils. At Lisbon there are some ships of war, but they are chiefly unfit for service.

DANISH NAVY.—The present naval force of Denmark consists of four ships of the line, two frigates, and about 120 gun-boats. There are two ships of the line and three frigates on the stocks. In 1807, the Danes, after having their city laid in ashes, were robbed by England of 18 ships of the line, 15 frigates, six brigs, and 25 gun-boats, under the plea, that if England did not plunder them, France would. The Danes have not since made much progress in regenerating their navy, their maritime operations being chiefly carried on by flotillas of gun-brigs, which carry heavy metal, are well manned, manœuvred, and fought; and in a calm are formidable even to ships of war.

UNITED STATES NAVY.—The Republican Navy at present consists of the following frigates:—Constitution, 44, Captain Hull; United States, 44, Capt. Decatur; President, 44, Commodore Rodgers; Chesapeake, 36; New York, 36; Constellation, 36, Capt. Bainbridge; Congress, 36, Capt. Smith; Boston, 32; Essex, 32, Capt. Porter; Macedonian (late British), 38; the John Adams corvette; Hornet sloop, of 16 guns; Syren, Argus, and Oneida brigs, of 16 guns; Vixen, Enterprise, and Viper schooners, of 12 guns; 170 gun-boats, stationed at New Orleans; and the Vengeance, Ætna, Vesuvius, and Spitfire bombs.

FRENCH NAVY.—In the various ports of France, Holland, and Italy, the French have 65 sail of the line, and 61 frigates, ready for sea; and 32 sail of the line, and 26 frigates, building and fitting out; so that in a short time we shall have opposed to us under French colours a numerical force of 97 sail of the line, and 87 frigates; but even the ships which are pretended to be ready for a start, particularly those in the Scheldt, are very badly manned, an evil for which the enemy does not possess any practicable remedy.

CITY.

RUSSIAN SUFFERERS.

On Thursday, a Court of Common Council was held, for the purpose of considering the propriety of voting a sum of money, in aid of the distressed Russian sufferers,

Mr. S. DIXON said, that the despot of the Continent, defeated in the South, had turned his rapacious eyes to the North, and by the possession of every port in the Baltic, had attempted to ruin this happy country.—An army composed of nine divisions, of 30,000 men each, was put in motion for Russia, to overwhelm her uncollected and disorganized forces; Bonaparte advanced with triumphant stride into the heart of the empire, and committed all the horrors and devastations almost unresisted.—The people however behaved with unexampled fortitude. Mr. Dixon here requested the Members of the Court to stretch their imaginations to the contemplation of the state of this country, under the dismal visitation of an invading enemy, and to judge from thence of the miseries of the faithful peasantry of Russia. With unimpeded step, the Emperor of the French advanced to Moscow:—the brave Russians set fire to the city, while Bonaparte, like Satan in the midst of flames, seated himself in the Kremlin!—(*Hear! hear!*) Here he continued until he found himself deceived in his hitherto infallible calculations. On the 6th November he boasted that eight days yet remained before the severities of winter would commence:—mankind owned his sway, and presumptions by success, he imagined even the seasons under his controul. He was mistaken—he went to bed on the 6th of November, and waking in the morning of the 7th, and looking out of his window, he saw with dismay the snow on the roofs of the house!! The Court could easily conceive the picture he represented.—He immediately hastened his departure, but too late:—the cold season had commenced and fought against him—in vain he attempted to retreat in good order:—thirty thousand horses perished in three days; the Russians had collected and united their forces—they fell upon his panic-struck army, and Bonaparte in his flight fancied that the Devil himself pursued him, in the disguise of a Cossack!—(*Hear! hear!*) What, after such a glorious triumph over their and our enemy, did not the Russian nation deserve? Did they not demand that we should give them every assistance to relieve their sufferings, and to enable them to complete their conquest? With these sentiments he proposed the following Resolution:—

"Resolved, that this Court, sensible of the great and powerful exertions of the Russian empire, and of the very great distresses and privations which that brave and loyal people have experienced from the unjust and unprovoked invasion of that country, by the common enemy of Europe, do subscribe the sum of 2000*l.* in aid of the suffering Russian people."

Mr. QUIN seconded the motion. He approved of the sum proposed, but suggested that it should not be sent out in money, but in necessaries from the British manufactories.

Mr. WAITHMAN said, that a proposition had been started, to which he could not give his assent, that Russia had taken the part she had acted merely from generosity towards us. This was contrary to all experience; we had found that no nation on the Continent had hesitated to desert us, when it had found its interest in so doing. The Russian war has been indeed a war of self-defence, and it afforded a noble lesson; for, while we had seen how successfully Russia alone had opposed the enemy, what might not have been done when the whole force of Europe had been opposed to that enemy, had affairs been conducted with even common policy? But, had we not in the war in which we were engaged, made greater sacrifices of men and money than Russia had done? And as to our comparative abilities, did not Russia possess the means of relief as well as this country? Did not our own countrymen need the assistance which it was now proposed to give to the Russians? In their *feelings* on the subject there could be no difference; they must all feel for fellow-creatures in distress, and particularly for the sufferers in question: but let them consider the state of the currency, which, although it might be boasted that it would purchase loaves within the kingdom, was of no use out of it,—the number of bankruptcies,—the distress of our merchants and manufacturers, and the difficulty of procuring that specie which is necessary for the payment of our troops. Small indeed as the sum was, which had been proposed, it was of such a magnitude as could not be easily got together for this last-mentioned purpose. They should consider the state of their chamber, and the practice which they had resorted to of borrowing on bonds, a loss of 20 per cent. Another consideration was, that when a subscription was entered into for the relief of those manufacturers who had been driven to violence by distress, nothing had been voted. On the same occasion, a certain Great Personage had subscribed

200*l.* who had now given 2000*l.* to the Russians! Such sensitiveness was manifested towards foreign suffering—such insensibility to domestic affliction! While they voted 2000*l.* to the Russians, might they not vote 1000*l.* to our own manufacturers? Before he sat down, there was one consideration, which was suggested by the subject before them, which he could not omit. He had formerly been in the habit of bringing forward propositions for petitions on the subject of Peace. This he had not now done for ten years, because he had thought that, under the circum-tances in which the country had been placed, a call from the people would not be the best means of procuring this desirable object on safe and honourable terms. But now, when the country stood high in military character; now, when the enemy had been humiliated by disaster, this was the time for negotiation. It would be better that we should learn from our enemy, to make propositions for Peace, not in the hour of despondency, but in that of success. He who should make the first proposition for negotiation, would be to be envied as a truly great statesman. The Honourable Gentleman then concluded with suggesting to Mr. Dixon, whether it might not be proper to divide his motion, and to move for a grant of 1000*l.* to the Russian sufferers, and a similar sum to the distressed manufacturers.

Sir W. CURTIS observed, that in voting this sum, they would be doing good to the manufacturers of this kingdom.

Mr. BINGH remarked, that it had been the battle of Great Britain which had been fought on Russian ground, and by the glorious result of it had been averted those privations which we should otherwise have endured. Trade would be opened, and our poor manufacturers employed as heretofore. He hoped that even if they were obliged to back it with their last shilling, they would not refuse a liberal vote.

Mr. TAVDY supported the motion.

Mr. FAVELL observed, that if the war which we carried on was not intended for one of extermination (which had been always disclaimed), some opportunity of entering into a negotiation must be taken. When could this be done if the present time was refused—a time when by such a measure there would be no danger of lowering the spirit of the country.

Mr. WHITE supported the grant.

Mr. WAITHMAN declared his intention at some future time to move that a similar sum to that proposed to be voted, be granted for the relief of the suffering manufacturers.

The motion was carried unanimously.

BIBLE SOCIETY.

A motion was made by Mr. FRANCE, that a sum of 215*l* be voted to the British and Foreign Bible Society, in addition to the sum of 100*l.* voted last summer. Several Members spoke on the question.

Mr. WAITHMAN disapproved of the system of cramming the poor with Bibles, which he thought was not the best mode of encouraging religion. The consequence of expending 50,000*l.* on this object last year had been, that the pawnbrokers' shops were now filled with Bibles.

On the question being loudly called for, a division took place, when the motion was negatived.—For the Motion 29—Against it 35.—Majority against the Motion 6.

On Friday, another Court of Common Council was held, when Mr. QUIN moved a series of Resolutions against the proposed extension of the Indian import trade to the out-ports, and in favour of the renewal of the Company's Charter.—After some debate, the discussion was adjourned till Monday se'nnight.

ACCIDENTS, OFFENCES, &c.

A lady of interesting appearance was on Friday week saved from a watery grave by Mr. Wilmot, of Westminster:—the lady was observed by Mr. Wilmot kneeling at some distance from the river at Millbank, Westminster, and soon after precipitated herself into the river, from which she was saved by Mr. Wilmot. She is married, with five children; her husband is in the Bench, and greatly distressed, which it is supposed caused the sad determination.

On Thursday se'nnight, between twelve and one o'cock, as Mr. Shawe, formerly leader of the Drury-lane Theatre Band, was returning home through Lincoln's-inn-fields, he was met by a man between Duke-street and Judge Chambre's house, in the wide part, who knocked him down backwards; the blow was given with so much violence, that his umbrella was broken to pieces in the fall. Mr. Shawe saw two watchmen and called to them, but neither came to his assistance, nor paid any attention to his call. The fellow who knocked him down got between his legs, and stopped his mouth to prevent him from repeating his call, and most cruelly lifted his head up and down repeatedly, and beat the back part on the curb-stone, and also gave him violent blows in other parts of his body. While this villain was thus employed, two or three others were engaged in robbing him of his watch, pocket book and papers. Three gentlemen approaching, the robbers ran of, and made their escape.

BIRTH.

On Monday, at Thorngrove, near Worcester, Madame Lucien Bonaparte, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

On Tuesday, at Kensington, by the Rev. R. Omerod, Wm. Horsley, Mus. Bac. Oxon, to Elizabeth, eldest daughter of Dr. Calcott.

On Thursday week, Joseph Lyne, Esq. of Finsbury-square, to Miss Eliza Baratta, daughter of the late Mr. Peter Baratta, merchant, in Lisbon.

On Saturday week, Viscount Jocelyn, eldest son of the Earl of Roden, to the Hon. Maria Stapleton, second daughter of Lord Le Despenser.

On Monday, John H. Tremayne, Esq. M. P. for Cornwall, to Caroline Matilda, daughter of Sir W. Lemon, Bart.

On new-year's day, John Speir, a labourer, at Hole, to Mary Campbell, the daughter of a poor man in the neighbourhood. On the very day of the marriage, the bride received information of the death of a very distant relation, who had altogether unexpectedly left her a legacy of 5000*l.* This gave great satisfaction to the neighbours, for the young couple are both universally esteemed.

DEATHS.

Lately, the Right Hon. A. Fraser Tytler, Lord Woodhouselee, one of the Judges of the Court of Session, (Second Division) and one of the Judges of the High Court of Justiciary.

On Friday week, in Seymour-place, the Countess of Aylesbury.

On the 8th inst. at her house in the Stable Yard, St. James's, Maria, Lady Broughton.

On the 8th inst, aged 69, John Viscount Torrington. He is succeeded in his titles by his eldest son George, Captain of his Majesty's ship Warrior.

On Saturday week, in Great Stanhope-street, the Countess of Clanbrassil.

On Thursday, at the house of Mr. Bish, Charing-cross, Mrs. Webb, wife of Robert Webb, Esq. of Dame-street, Dublin. Her death was occasioned by an accident she met with by the overturning of one of the Oxford stages, near Stoken Church, in October last.

On Tuesday last, after a short illness, Alexander Grant, a respectable master-printer, of the Borough of Southwark.

At Whitby, Mrs. Elizabeth Rowntree, aged 104.

Lately, at Millbrook, Moses Pring, aged 107.

A few days since, at Bath, Gen. Agnew.

On the 12th inst., at Croydon, Mrs. Grose, wife of Lieut. Gen. Grose, of the 102d regiment.

Lately, suddenly, John Marshall, the prodigy long known in Leeds by the name of Crutchy Jack. This man, though not more than 36 inches, was the father of eight robust children.

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